

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement sheets of drawings include changes to FIGs. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11. These replacement sheets, 1/5 – 5/5, include FIGs. 1 - 11, to replace the original sheets 1/5 – 5/5 including originally filed FIGs. 1 - 11.

The replacement drawings for figures 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 better reflect the depth of the gear teeth. In figure 1 extraneous lines were removed and the groove reference number 5 was added with a cut out portion to show the groove 5 better. In figures 1 and 2 an unneeded line near the gear 3 was deleted. In figures 4 - 10 the trough of the gear teeth was shown as a dashed line. In figure 11 more cross hatching was added to better show the component features.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets 1/5 – 5/5
Annotated Sheets 1/5 – 5/5 Showing Changes

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 6, 7, 12 and 15-17 remain pending, each of which has been amended. The specification has been amended to correspond to the claims as amended and the drawings have been amended, replacement sheets being filed herewith.

Drawing figures 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 have been corrected to show the trough of the gear teeth being less radially deep as compared to the circumferential groove. No new matter has been added. The corrections clarify the drawings that were objected to by the examiner. Figures 2 and 11 were also amended to provide a clearer view. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested. Replacement sheets are being filed herewith.

Claims 1, 6, 7, 12 and 15-17 were objected to under U.S.C. section 112 as being indefinite. Applicants amended claim 1 deleting "or otherwise lowest surface". Accordingly withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

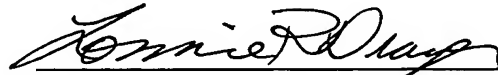
Claims 1, 6, 7, 12 and 15-17 were rejected as being anticipated by Zygutis, US 5,037,038. The torsion bar as defined in Zygutis is comprised of two or more separate and distinct pieces assembled to the bar. In particular the gear 26 is clearly not formed from the torsion bar material as is required in amended claim 1. Furthermore the flange stop "A" marked by the examiner is a separate part slipped over the shaft 18 at the same depth as the bar on the left hand side and is increased as the bar diameter is larger on the right hand side.

Applicants have amended claim 1 to reflect the fact that the torsion bar comprises torsion bar, a flange and at least one gear, all formed from a single bar of material. Paragraphs [0023], [0024], [0025] and [0026] disclose that the bar material is the base material with a molded flange from which the gears 2, 3 can be formed along with the groove 5. This construction is neither taught nor suggested in the prior art. The examiner's interpretation that "integral" can include separate parts attached together is overcome by applicants amending the claims to require the torsion bar is a one piece component. This amendment more clearly reflects the claimed invention and is novel over the prior art cited. Accordingly applicants request this rejection to be withdrawn.

Applicants have amended the summary of the invention and paragraph [0019] of the detailed description to reflect the "one piece" construction and to correspond to the claims as amended. No new matter was added.

For the reasons stated above applicants respectfully request the examiner withdraw this rejection and allow this application to pass to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lonnie R. Drayer", is written over a horizontal line.

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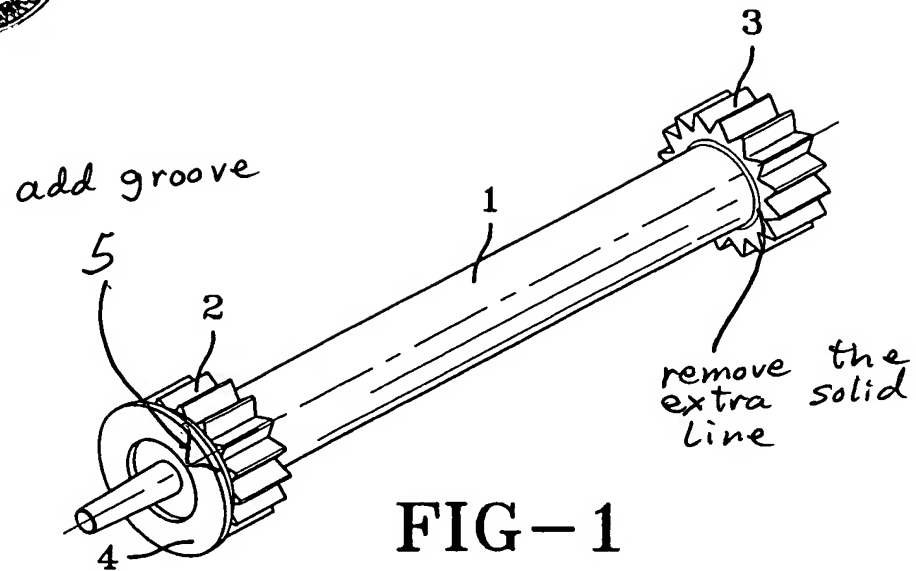


FIG-1

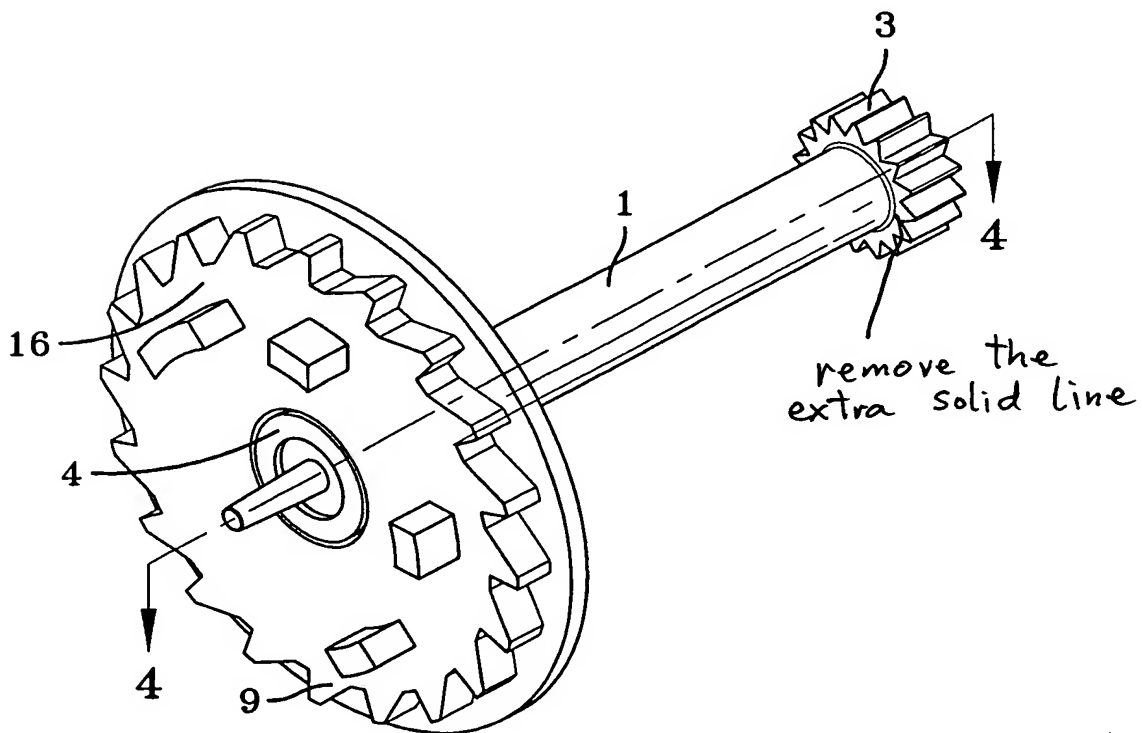


FIG-2



2/5

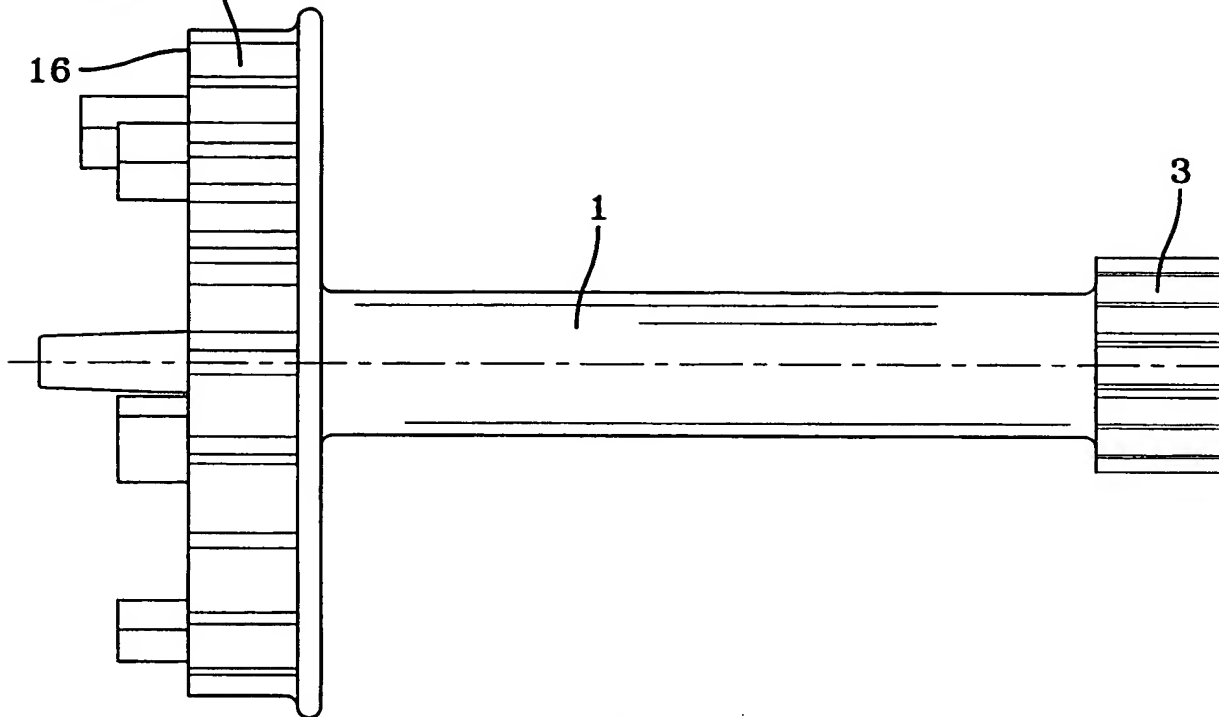


FIG-3

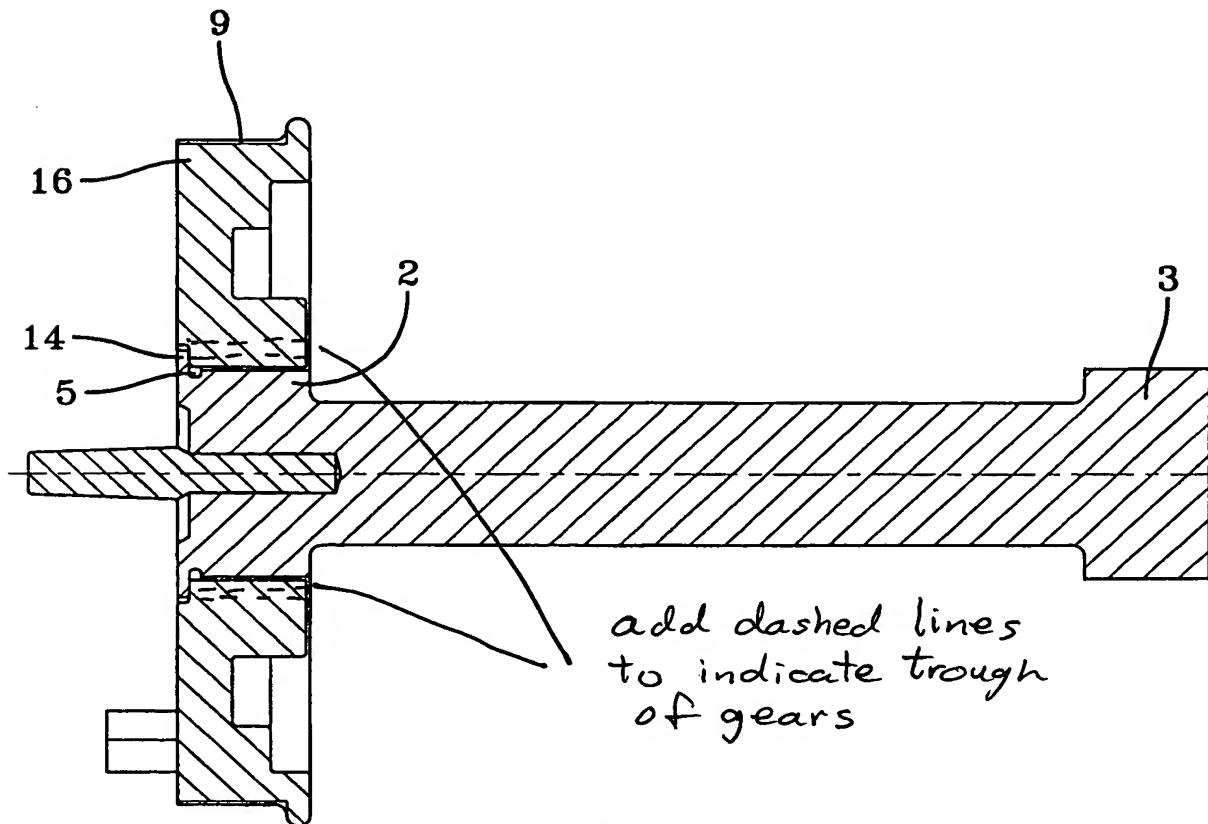


FIG-4

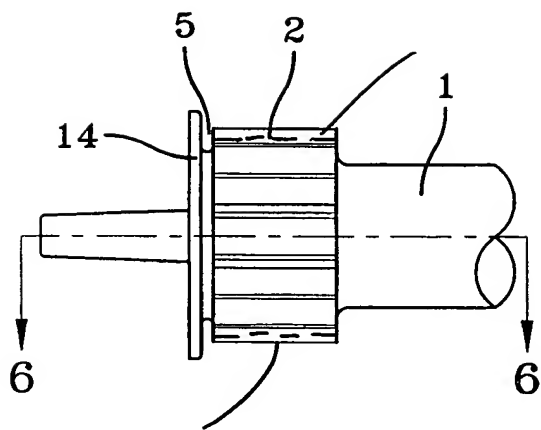


FIG-5

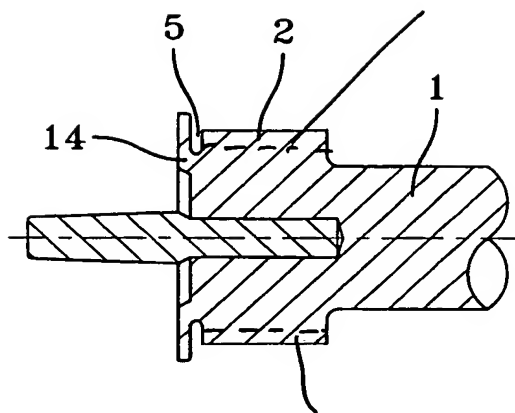


FIG-6

*add dashed lines to
each of these figs to
indicate trough of gears*

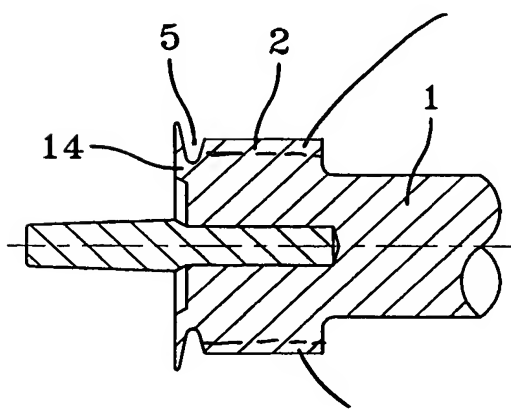


FIG-7

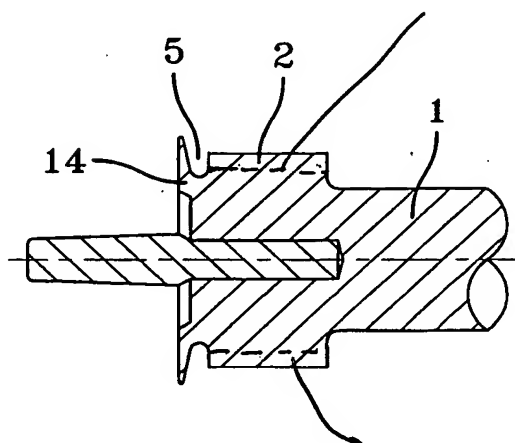


FIG-8

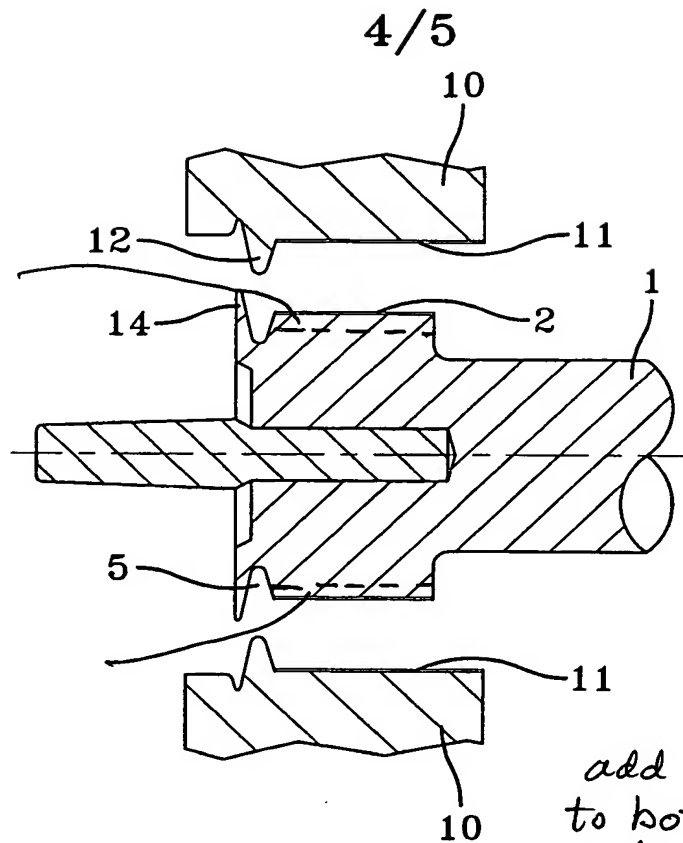


FIG-9

*add dashed lines
to both figs to
indicate trough of
gears*

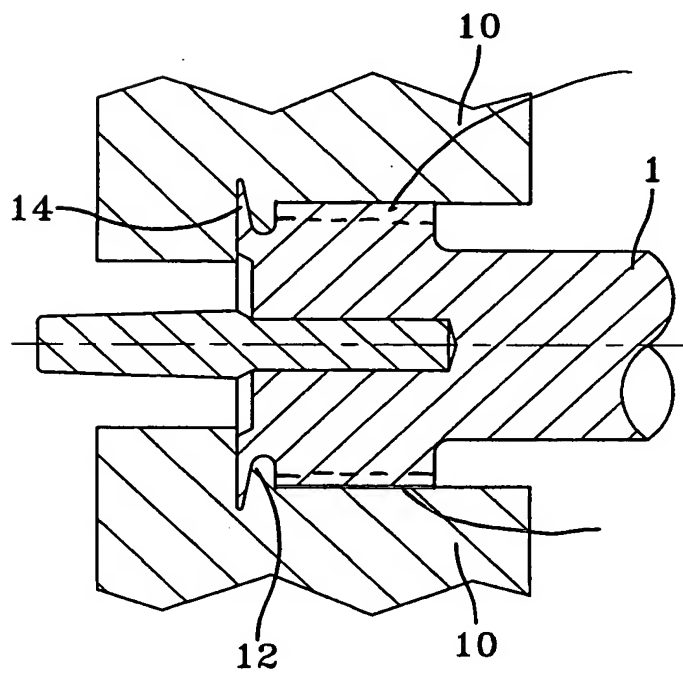


FIG-10

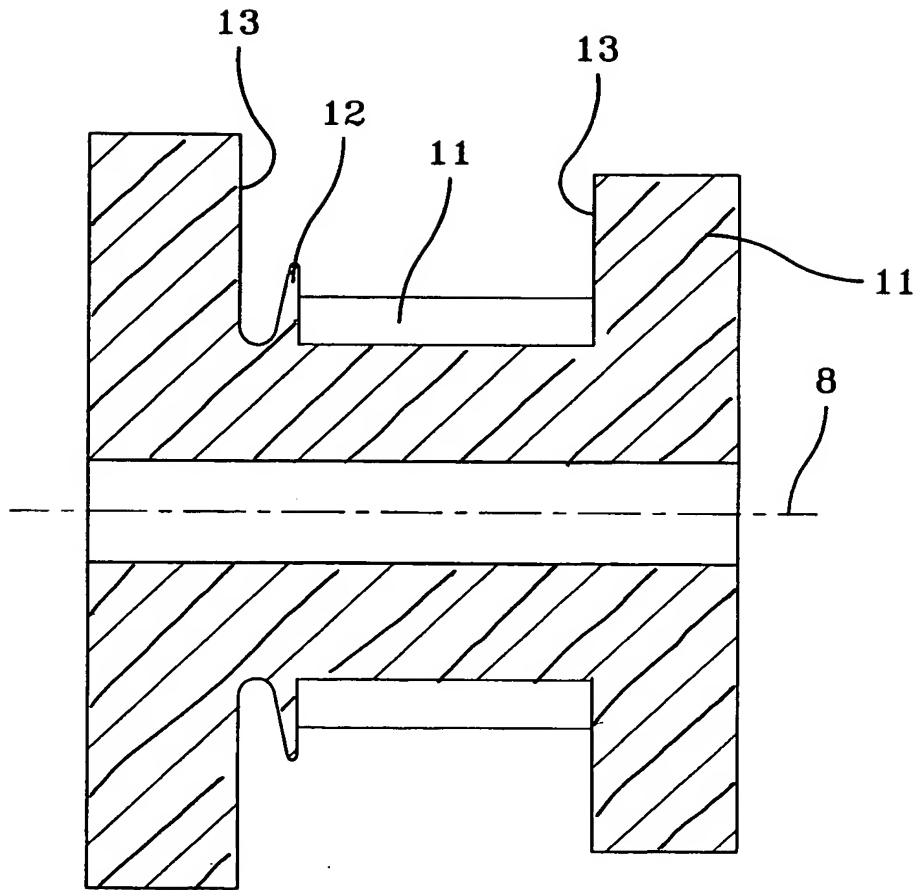


FIG-11

add more section lines